

Haverhill Urban District, 1908,

IN THE ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY OF WEST SUFFOLK.

Thirty-first Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the Haverhill Urban District, in the Administrative County of West Suffolk, for the Year ending 31st December, 1908.

Prepared in accordance with the Memorandum of the Local Government Board dated November, 1908.

Area in acres (exclusive of 1 acre covered by inland water) 2529. Rateable Value Land £1,010. Buildings £12,454. Total £13,464. Assessable Value £12,959. A penny rate produces £48.

POPULATION AT CENSUS	(1881)	3713	(1891)	4587	(1901)	4862	(1908)	5054
PERSONS PER ACRE	"	1.4	"	1.8	"	1.9		(estimated)
INHABITED HOUSES	"	749	"	902	"	1050		
PERSONS PER HOUSE	"	4.9	"	5.0	"	4.6		

The population of the district at the last census was 4862, being an increase of 275 on the previous census. Assuming that this rate of increase is still going on, the estimated population of the district is 5054.

BIRTHS.—The number of births registered during the year 1908 was **107**, 58 of boys and 49 of girls, equivalent to a birth-rate of **21.17** per thousand population. A comparison with the birth-rates in the previous ten years is given in Table I. During the past three decades there has been a considerable decrease in the birth-rate of this district, as will be seen in the table below, which shows the number of births and deaths in each decade and the marked diminution in the excess of births over deaths. Of the 107 births registered during 1908 2 were illegitimate children, forming 1.8 per cent. of the total births.

TEN YEARS.....	1878-1887	1888-1897	1898-1907	1908
AVERAGE ANNUAL NUMBER OF BIRTHS	152	155	130	107
AVERAGE ANNUAL NUMBER OF DEATHS	70	75	70	56
AVERAGE ANNUAL EXCESS OF BIRTHS OVER DEATHS	82	80	60	51
BIRTH-RATE	39.42	39.75	26.51	21.17
DEATH-RATE	18.15	16.33	14.27	11.27

DEATHS.—The number of deaths registered in the district during the year 1908 from all causes was 49. After adding 8 deaths of residents in public institutions outside the district, the number of deaths of persons belonging to the district was **57** (28 males, 29 females) equivalent to a death-rate of only **11.27** per thousand population, the death-rate among males being 12.46, and among females 11.08. A comparison with the death-rates in the previous ten years is given in Table I., and in Table IV. the causes of death in 1908 at different age periods are given. During the past three decades there has been a considerable improvement in the death-rate of this district, as will be seen by the table above.

In the group of the seven principal zymotic diseases the only deaths during the year were 1 from Measles, 3 from Whooping Cough, and 2 from Diphtheria, making a total of **6**, equivalent to a death-rate of **1.1** per thousand population, as compared with an average of 1.3 during the previous ten years.

Infant Mortality.—In the year 1908 the deaths of infants under one year of age were in the proportion of 121 per thousand births, as compared with an average of 131 in the previous ten years 1898-1907. The causes of deaths among infants in weeks and months under one year of age are given in Table V. The mortality occurring among infants is regarded as a valuable test of the health of communities. During the past thirty-four years 1874-1907 the average annual proportion of deaths under one year of age per thousand births in the Haverhill Urban District has been 141, as compared with 145 in England and Wales. In this district during that period to every 1,000 children born alive there died on an average 12 from Common Infectious Diseases, 17 from Diarrhoeal Diseases, 60 from Wasting Diseases, 8 from Tuberculous Diseases, and 44 from Other Causes, before they reached the age of one year.

DISEASE INCIDENCE.

Notification of Infectious Disease.—The Infectious Disease (Notification) Act has been in force in this district since January 8th, 1890. The number of cases notified each year since the Act came into force are given in the following table:—

1890	1891	1892	1893	1894	1895	1896	1897	1898	1899	1900	1901	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906	1907	1908
45	42	45	92	32	28	53	49	196	129	37	29	11	11	17	16	16	17	101

Small-pox.—No case of small-pox occurred in the district during the year, nor in any of the nineteen years since notification became compulsory.

Scarlatina or Scarlet Fever.—The total number of cases of scarlet fever notified in this district during the year 1908 was **91** in 78 separate families. There were no deaths and most of the cases were of a very mild type. Every case except one was removed to the Fever Hospital for isolation. Further particulars of the outbreak are given in a Special Report. The incidence of Scarlet Fever since notification came into operation is shown in the following table:—

SCARLATINA	1890	1891	1892	1893	1894	1895	1896	1897	1898	1899	1900	1901	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906	1907	1908
CASES NOTIFIEDD	6	7	8	68	3	1	25	21	167	30	10	1	—	—	1	1	3	12	91
DEATHS REGISTERED..	1	—	—	2	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

The total number of cases of Scarlet Fever notified during these nineteen years was 455 and the total number of deaths 6, being an average of 1·3 deaths per 100 cases.

Diphtheria.—There were **7** cases of Diphtheria notified during the year, 1 in April, 3 in August, 1 in September, and 2 in November. The cases occurred concurrently with the cases of Scarlet Fever and one of the cases notified in November occurred in the Fever Hospital. The patient was a girl aged 9 years who had been removed to the Hospital on account of Scarlet Fever on November 10th and developed diphtheritic symptoms on November 12th, two days after admission, when she was moved into a ward by herself. The other six cases, three boys and three girls, aged from 2 to 11 years occurred in six houses in the town. Two of these cases died, a boy aged 5 in August, and a boy aged 6 in September. The cases were treated in their own homes as most of them occurred at the time when the hospital was full. Two of the cases occurred in houses in which factory work was done, but the work was stopped until the premises were free from infection. The incidence of Diphtheria since notification came into operation is shown in the following table:—

DIPHTHERIA	1890	1891	1892	1893	1894	1895	1896	1897	1898	1899	1900	1901	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906	1907	1908
CASES NOTIFIEDD	—	1	15	10	10	6	6	8	8	87	22	23	2	7	5	1	4	—	7
DEATHS REGISTERED..	—	3	8	—	—	2	1	2	—	7	1	4	—	—	1	—	1	—	2

The total number of cases of Diphtheria notified during these nineteen years was 222, and the total number of deaths 32, being an average of 14·4 deaths per 100 cases.

Typhoid or Enteric Fever.—There was no case of Typhoid or Enteric Fever notified in this district during 1908. The incidence of Typhoid Fever since notification came into operation is shown in the following table:—

TYPHOID FEVER.....	1890	1891	1892	1893	1894	1895	1896	1897	1898	1899	1900	1901	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906	1907	1908
CASES NOTIFIEDD	27	29	19	6	16	5	14	16	9	4	1	1	2	—	1	—	1	—	—
DEATHS REGISTERED..	—	1	5	2	2	—	—	1	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

The total number of cases of Typhoid Fever notified during these nineteen years was 151, and the total number of deaths 14, being an average of 9·2 deaths per 100 cases.

Puerperal Fever.—There was no case of Puerperal Fever notified in 1908. The cases of Puerperal Fever notified since the Notification Act came into force were 2 in 1895, 1 in 1896, 1 in 1897, 1 in 1898, 1 in 1900, 2 in 1901, and 1 in 1905 (none fatal). The Midwives Act is administered by the County Council. No powers or duties have been delegated under section 9 of the Act to the Haverhill Urban District Council.

Erysipelas.—There were **3** cases of Erysipelas notified during 1908. The incidence of Erysipelas since notification came into operation is shown in the following table:—

ERYSIPELAS.....	1890	1891	1892	1893	1894	1895	1896	1897	1898	1899	1900	1901	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906	1907	1908
CASES NOTIFIEDD	4	3	2	8	3	14	7	3	11	8	3	2	7	4	10	13	7	5	3
DEATHS REGISTERED..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Other Notifiable Diseases.—There has been no case notified in this district of Cholera, Typhus Fever, Relapsing Fever, or Plague.

Other Zymotic Diseases not Notifiable.—Measles caused **1** death in January. Whooping Cough caused **3** deaths, one in February and two in March. From Diarrhoea there was no death during the year. The deaths belonging to this district from Measles, Whooping Cough, and Diarrhoea during the previous ten years were:—

YEAR	1898	1899	1900	1901	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906	1907	10 YEARS.	MEAN RATE.
MEASLES	1	2	6	—	1	—	4	1	—	4	19	0·32
WHOOPIING COUGH....	1	—	4	—	—	—	9	—	—	1	15	0·25
DIARRHOEA	7	3	1	—	1	3	—	—	1	—	16	0·27

Influenza.—During the year no death was registered from Influenza in this District. The deaths registered from Influenza since its introduction into this district in 1889 were:—

YEAR	1889	1890	1891	1892	1893	1894	1895	1896	1897	1898	1899	1900	1901	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906	1907	1908
INFLUENZA DEATHS —	2	—	8	1	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Tuberculous Diseases.—The number of deaths due to Phthisis (Consumption) in 1908 was **5** (2 males and 3 females) giving a death-rate of **0.98**, and from Other Tuberculous Diseases **2** (both males) giving a death-rate of **0.39**. In the table below is given the mean annual death-rate from Phthisis and Other Tuberculous Diseases in each of the past three decades.

MEAN ANNUAL DEATH-RATE.....	TEN YEARS 1878-1887	1888-1897	1898-1907	1908
PHTHISIS (Consumption)	1.63	1.52	1.32	0.98
OTHER TUBERCULOUS DISEASES	0.41	0.30	0.79	0.39
CANCER	0.38	0.56	0.61	1.58

Under a new order of the Local Government Board which comes into force on January 1st, 1909, notification of Pulmonary Tuberculosis among inmates of Poor Law Institutions or among poor persons under the care of District Medical Officers will become compulsory.

Cancer.—The total number of deaths due to the various forms of Cancer in 1908 was **8** (5 males and 3 females), giving a death-rate of **1.58** per thousand population. The mean annual death-rate from Cancer in the past three decades is given in the table above.

The Local Government Board in their recent Memorandum as to Annual Reports of Medical Officers of Health dated November, 1908, desire to obtain information on the following Specified Subjects.

Physical Features.—The district is in the catchment basin of the river Stour. The elevation above sea-level varies from about 200 to 300 feet. The geological formation is chalk, covered on the higher ground with Glacial Drift, chiefly Boulder Clay.

Occupations of the Inhabitants.—The principal industry of the town is the manufacture of textile fabrics and ready-made clothing. Some of the inhabitants find occupation at the brick works and some at the brewery.

House accommodation.—The house accommodation in this district is fairly adequate. At the last census (1901) the number of inhabited houses was 1,050 in 1,056 tenements, and the average number of persons per tenement was 4.6.

Tenements with	1 room.	2 rooms.	3 rooms.	4 rooms.	5 or more rooms.
Number at census	none.	15	30	193	818
Number of inmates	none.	24	121	784	3933
Persons per tenement	—	1.6	4.0	4.0	4.8

Since the last census 34 new houses have been built and 7 old houses have been demolished. There is strict supervision over the erection of new houses and the requirements of the Model Building Byelaws are enforced. There are not many cases of crowding of persons in dwellings, and most of the houses have sufficient open space. Many of the new houses have paved areas. During the year no new house has been erected, but 6 of the existing houses have been very much improved.

Sewerage and Drainage.—Most of the houses in the town are now connected with the sewerage system. The sewage is treated at the sewage outfall works by first passing it through a screening chamber and then collecting it in two tanks at a low level from which it is pumped into another tank placed at a level sufficiently high for it to be distributed over contact beds by means of a revolving sprinkler, which works satisfactorily. During the year a portion of the main sewer has been re-laid so as to prevent infiltration of storm-water, and an improvement is being made in one of the contact beds with a view to improving the effluent.

Pollution of streams.—The effluent from the sewage works is discharged into the river Stour. During the year complaints have been sent to the Haverhill Urban District Council and also to the Essex County Council by the Sturmer Parish Council as to the pollution of the River Stour by the sewage of Haverhill. In November a sample of the effluent was analysed and found satisfactory, but the analysis of another sample taken in December was not satisfactory. With reference to this matter the following is an extract from a report made by Dr. Thresh, the County Medical Officer of Health for Essex: "Noting that the Clerk had received some complaint at Sturmer about the pollution of a tributary of the River Stour by the sewage of Haverhill, my assistant went over and inspected the stream and examined the Haverhill works. He took samples of the effluent being produced at the works and a sample of water from the stream about half-way between the works and Sturmer. A good deal of dye liquor gets into the Haverhill sewage. The sewage passes the tank, then through two series of coke beds being sprinkled over the second bed. Finally it is filtered through land. This should produce a very good effluent, incapable of putrefaction, but the sample taken was far from satisfactory, its impurity figure being 38. Some sewage gets into the stream from the village (Sturmer) itself. The stream is small and is doubtless polluted by Sturmer as well as Haverhill."

Steps are being taken to improve the effluent from the Haverhill sewage works and a portion of the river bed has been cleaned out. The stream would be dry during a great part of the year but for the effluent from the sewage works.

Excrement Disposal.—The system in vogue is the water carriage system; most of the houses have water closets which are drained into the sewer. During the year the drains from 13 houses have been repaired or reconstructed. 4 new closets have been connected with the sewers and 2 old privies have been done away with.

House refuse.—During the past nine years the Urban District Council has undertaken the removal and disposal of house refuse in the town. The refuse is collected weekly with stated days and hours for each part of the town, and disposed of on the sewage farm.

Water Supply.—The town is supplied with water from the waterworks which were completed in 1897 and are the property of the Urban District Council. The supply is from a deep well dug 25 feet through the boulder clay, and 78 feet in the chalk, and then bored into the chalk another 152 feet, making a total of 255 feet dug and bored. The number of premises connected to the water-mains during the year was 5, making a total of 1,010 connected since the waterworks were started. The new pumps continue to work efficiently. The total quantity of water pumped during the year was 16,825,000 gallons. Two old wells in the town have been closed during the year. A new set of Water Regulations are being drawn up.

Milk Supply.—With a view to improving the character and wholesomeness of the milk supply produced within the district Regulations with respect to Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops were adopted and came into force in this district on January 1st, 1907. There are in this district four cowsheds, three dairies, and one milkshop, and steps are being taken to enforce the requirements of the new regulations and the Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops Orders. During the year all the dairies and cowsheds in the district have been inspected, when it was found that the whitewashing had been done at the proper time and the regulations were being carried out. In one cowshed it was found that certain repairs and alterations were necessary in order to comply with the regulations, but rather than carry out the work the cow-keeper has given up selling milk. Milk is brought into the district from two dairy farms in the Clare Rural District.

Other Foods.—No unsound food has been found during the year. There are 6 slaughter houses in the town all of which have been inspected twice during the year. Most of them comply with the byelaws with respect to slaughter houses, and all except two were found to be fairly satisfactory. During the year improvements have been made in one of the slaughter houses, the floor has been taken up and re-laid, and the walls have been cemented, and some alterations have been made with regard to the drainage. One of the slaughter houses is an old building in which the structural defects are such as to render it difficult to comply with the byelaws. No action has been taken during the year by the District Council under the Food and Drugs Act, nor has any action been taken under Section 117 of the Public Health Act.

Lodging houses.—There is one registered lodging-house in the town which is inspected under the byelaws with respect to common lodging houses. During the year certain defects were noted which have now been remedied.

Schools.—The public elementary schools at Haverhill are large and excellent buildings with accommodation for boys, girls, and infants. The buildings are drained into the public sewers and are provided with a water supply from the town waterworks. On account of the outbreak of Scarlet Fever the schools, books, and apparatus were disinfected during the Whitsuntide holidays and again during the summer holidays. On November 25th the schools were closed until after the Christmas holidays and the schools were again disinfected. There are 873 scholars on the registers, 303 boys, 269 girls, and 301 infants.

Byelaws.—Byelaws for the following purposes are in force in this district.

1. Byelaws with respect to New Streets and Buildings.
2. Byelaws with respect to Cleansing of footways and pavements, removal of house refuse, cleansing of earthclosets, privies, ashpits, and cesspools.
3. Byelaws with respect to Slaughter houses.
4. Byelaws with respect to Common Lodging houses.
5. Byelaws with respect to Nuisances.

These Byelaws were allowed by the Local Government Board May 28th, 1880.

In addition there are the Regulations with respect to Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops, which came into force on January 1st, 1907.

Nuisances.—Mr. F. W. Knewstubb, the late Surveyor and Inspector of Nuisances for the district, resigned and terminated his appointment on June 30th, 1908, and Mr. W. H. Eley, who had been assistant Surveyor for the Chelmsford Rural District, was appointed and took over the duties of the office on July 1st, 1908. The number of nuisances reported and dealt with by Mr. Knewstubb during the first six months of the year was 19, and the number reported and dealt with by Mr. Eley during the last six months of the year was 34, and the number of premises inspected by him was 141.

Infectious Diseases.—The Infectious Disease (Notification) Act has been in force in this district since 8th January, 1890. On receiving notification of a case of infectious disease the patient is, if possible, removed to the Fever Hospital for isolation and all particulars relating to the patient and to the infected premises are entered by the Sanitary Inspector on a printed form which he forwards to me. The source of infection is investigated and a printed notice is left at each infected house as to the precautions recommended

by me to be taken for preventing the spread of the particular disease and the penalty for neglecting to take the proper precautions. Disinfectants are supplied free of charge and on removal of the patient or after the termination of the case the infected house is disinfected under the superintendence of the Inspector. The number of houses disinfected by Mr. F. W. Knewstubb during the first six months of the year was 15, and the number disinfected by Mr. W. H. Eley during the last six months of the year was 69. These figures include the disinfection of 29 houses of homeworkers in which cases of infectious diseases had been notified.

Isolation hospital.—The isolation hospital for this district is the Haverhill Fever Hospital which is built of brick and slate and is situated on high ground on the west side of the town. There is the regulation accommodation for 10 adults, but in the case of children there are beds available for a larger number. Cases of two diseases can be concurrently treated, but during the year all the wards were used for the treatment of Scarlet Fever cases. A cottage for the caretaker and nurses is provided in the centre of the block. Behind the main building are the mortuary, disinfecting house, laundry, wash-house, and ambulance shed. The caretaker and nurse who were in charge of the hospital during the first eight months of the year resigned, and a new caretaker and nurse were appointed who took up their duties on September 2nd, and additional nurses were obtained to assist them. A new conveyance has been purchased during the year for the removal of patients.

MEDICAL INSPECTION OF SCHOOL CHILDREN.—The Local Government Board in their circular dated 2nd December, 1908, request the Medical Officer of Health to include in his Annual Report information as to what arrangements have been made for the medical inspection of school children under the Education (Administrative Provisions) Act, 1907. The Act, which came into force on the first day of January 1908, conferred upon the Local Education Authority the duty of providing for the inspection of children immediately before or at the time of or as soon as possible after their admission to a public elementary school, and on such other occasions as the Board of Education may direct. In this district the Urban District Council is not the local authority for the purposes of the Act, the work having been undertaken by the County Council.

Factories and Workshops.—The Medical Officer of Health is required in his Annual Report to report specifically on the administration of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, in so far as it is in the hands of the District Council and is concerned with matters in his department. The Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890, was adopted in this district in 1891. During the year the number of notifications received from H.M. Inspector of Factories was one, which has been remedied. The nine bakehouses have all been inspected and the limewashing of each has been enforced at least twice in the year. There is a large amount of homework done in this district. During the year lists of outworkers have been received from the Factory of Messrs. D. Gurtzen & Sons and from other employers, and the names and addresses of outworkers resident in other districts have been sent to their respective District Councils. The total number of outworkers in this district is 352. During the year no dwelling-house where homework is done was found to be so unwholesome as to require the prohibition of work being done therein, but in 29 of the houses in which homework was being done cases of infectious disease have been notified during the year and in each case the work was prohibited from being done until the premises and homework had been properly disinfected. The following is a summary of the information required to be sent to the Home Office on the Form supplied for the purpose.

- 1.—Inspections, including inspections made by the Inspector of Nuisances.

Factories	6	Written Notices	—	Prosecutions	—
Workshops	59	"	5	"	—
Workplaces	5	"	—	"	—
- 2.—Defects.

	Found	5	Remedied	5	Prosecutions	—
Want of Cleanliness	"	1	"	1	"	—
Other Nuisances	"	—	"	—	"	—
Sanitary Accommodation	"	4	"	4	"	—
- 3.—Homework.

Outworkers lists received from employers, 8. From other Councils, 2. Outworkers, 352.
Number of inspections of outworkers premises, 75.
Outworkers infected premises, 29. Orders made, 29.
- 4.—Registered Workshops.—Workshops on the register at the end of the year:—Dressmakers 5, Milliners 4, Bootmakers 5, Tailors 3, Saddlers 2, Wheelwrights 2, Smiths 3, Builders 2, Plumbers 3, Cycle Works 2, Ale Bottling Shop 1, Basket Maker 1, Brewer 1, Brickmaker 1, Matmaker 1, Measur maker 1, Rope and Twine maker 1, Stonemason 1, Silkweavers 4, Hairweaver 1, Cabinet maker 1, Printer 1, and Bakehouses 9, making a total of 55.
- 5.—Other Matters.

Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspector as remediable under the Public Health Act.
Notified by H.M. Inspector, one.
Reports of action taken sent to H.M. Inspector, one.
Underground bakehouses in use at the end of the year, one, which complies with the requirements of the District Council.

WILLIAM ARMISTEAD, M.B.,

STAPLEFORD,

CAMBRIDGE,

January, 1909.

Medical Officer of Health.

Special Report of the Medical Officer of Health on the prevalence of Scarlet Fever in the Haverhill Urban District, 1908.

Previous to the outbreak cases of Measles and German Measles had occurred in the town and concurrently with these diseases mild cases resembling Scarlet Fever began to occur in April and May. The first of these anomalous cases notified as Scarlet Fever was a woman who worked at the Factory. She had been ill for about 10 days previously and a person in the same house had recently had Influenza. This case was notified on April 7th and was followed by 10 more mild cases notified as Scarlatina previous to the Whitsuntide Holidays. Most of these cases were notified by one medical man who informed me that the cases resembled Scarlatina but were of an anomalous type and were mixed up with cases of Measles and German Measles at the same time and that he had had 30 or 40 previous cases of German Measles besides cases of true Measles, and that some of the cases which had been removed to the Isolation Hospital had developed symptoms of German Measles after removal. Another practitioner informed me that the cases which he had notified were of a doubtful character, resembling Scarlet Fever, but some of them might have been cases of Rubella or what has been called "fourth disease."

From June 4th to 16th the schools were closed for the Whitsuntide Holidays and the opportunity was taken to disinfect the schools, including the desks, books and apparatus. During this period 5 fresh cases were notified, but there was reason to suspect that other cases had occurred which had escaped detection during the time that the children were not at school. For instance, a girl aged nine years, living in a group of small cottages was found to be peeling freely. She was seen by me on July 1st and immediately sent to the hospital. The girl, who had evidently been ill for at least three weeks, had had no medical attendant, and the father informed me that he was ignorant of the nature of the illness. There can be no doubt that some of the subsequent cases originated from this source.

From the time that the schools were re-opened until the summer holidays 29 cases were notified and the infants' school was closed on July 27th, one week earlier than the usual date of closing for the summer holidays.

From August 3rd to September 14th the schools were closed for the summer holidays and the opportunity was taken of having the school rooms, desks, and apparatus again disinfected. During this period 13 cases were notified and when the schools were re-opened there was good reason for believing that the outbreak was coming to an end.

After the summer holidays to the end of October only 12 cases were notified, but in November there was a marked increase in the number of notifications. Some of these cases were evidently not fresh cases but previously undetected cases, as they had reached an advanced stage of desquamation. One of these cases, a girl aged nine, developed symptoms of diphtheria on the second day after admission to the hospital when she was placed in a separate ward by herself. On November 25th the schools were closed and since then only 2 fresh cases have been notified.

The total number of cases notified as Scarlatina or Scarlet Fever was 91, all of which were children aged three to thirteen years with the exception of two women aged respectively 23 and 31 years, three boys aged respectively 14, 15 and 19 years, and one girl aged 16 years. Of the total cases 49 were males and 42 were females. The cases notified as Scarlet Fever during each month are given in the following table:—

Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	TOTAL.
Cases of German Measles and Measles.			2	9	5	28	10	8	8	21	—	91

There were no deaths. Most of the cases were of a very mild type, some of them resembling Rubella, associated with cases of the ordinary type of Scarlet Fever. Outbreaks such as this are very difficult to deal with as it is almost impossible to correctly diagnose the very mild cases.

The 91 cases occurred in 78 houses, in 66 of which only one case occurred in each house; in 11 two cases occurred in each house, and in only one house did three cases occur. With only one exception all the cases were removed to the Fever Hospital for isolation and on occasions all the wards in the hospital were full. In 25 of the houses in which Scarlet Fever was notified factory out-work was carried on, but in each case the work was stopped until the home-work and the premises had been properly disinfected.

The outbreak appears now (January 1909), to be at an end; the last cases have been discharged from the hospital and the schools were re-opened on January 5th.

WILLIAM ARMISTEAD, M.B.,

Medical Officer of Health.

STAPLEFORD,

CAMBRIDGE,

January, 1909.

TABLE I.
Vital Statistics of the Haverhill Urban District during 1908, and Previous Ten Years.

Year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births.		Total Deaths Registered in the District.				Total Deaths in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Non-residents registered in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Residents registered in Public Institutions beyond the District.	Nett Deaths at all Ages belonging to the District.	
				Under 1 year of age.		At all Ages.						
		Number.	*Rate.	Number.	Rate per 1000 Births registered	Number.	*Rate.				Number.	*Rate.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1898	4779	148	30.9	26	175	69	14.4	...	...	4	78	15.2
1899	4807	146	30.3	17	116	73	15.1	...	...	7	80	16.6
1900	4834	142	29.3	30	211	93	19.2	...	...	2	95	19.6
1901	4862	132	27.1	14	106	61	12.5	...	...	8	69	14.1
1902	4889	145	29.6	13	89	54	11.0	...	...	6	60	12.2
1903	4917	124	25.2	8	64	43	8.7	...	...	5	48	9.7
1904	4944	134	26.9	21	156	81	16.3	...	...	2	88	16.7
1905	4972	124	24.9	12	97	54	10.8	...	...	8	62	12.4
1906	5000	127	25.4	18	141	56	11.2	...	...	6	62	12.4
1907	5027	108	21.4	14	129	62	12.3	...	...	5	67	13.3
Average for years 1898-1907	4908	130	26.5	17	131	65	13.2	...	...	5	70	14.3
1908	5054	107	21.17	13	121	49	9.6	...	...	8	57	11.2

* Rates in Columns 4, 8, and 13 are calculated per 1,000 of the estimated population.

The "Public Institutions" taken into account are:—The Union Workhouse, not within the District, and Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge.

TABLE II.

Vital Statistics of Separate Localities in 1908, and previous years.

TABLE IV.

Causes of and Ages at Death during Year 1908.

There are no recognised divisions of known population in this District, therefore this table has not been filled up.

TABLE III.

Cases of Infectious Disease Notified during the year 1908 in the Haverhill Urban District.

1908 Notifiable Disease.	Cases Notified in whole District.					
	At all Ages.	Under 1 Year.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 65.
Small-pox ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cholera ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria ...	7	1	6	...	...	...
Membranous Croup ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas ...	3	...	...	2	1	...
Scarlet Fever...	91	15	71	4	1	90
Typhus Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Relapsing Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Continued Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Plague ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals ...	101	16	77	4	3	1

* One case removed for Scarlet Fever developed Diphtheria.

The Isolation Hospital is the Haverhill Fever Hospital, within the District.

1908		Deaths in or belonging to whole District at subjoined Ages.					
Causes of Death.		At all Ages.	Under 1 Year.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 65.
In this Table all deaths of "Residents" occurring in Public Institutions are included with the other Deaths in the several Age Groups.	
Small-pox
Measles	1	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever...
Whooping Cough	3	2	1	...	...
Diphtheria and Membranous Croup	2	...	...	...	...
Croup
Fever ... (Typhus ...)
Enteric
Other Continued
Epidemic Influenza...
Cholera
Plague
Diarrhoea
Enteritis
Puerperal Fever
Erysipelas
Phthisis
Other Tubercular Diseases...
Cancer, Malignant Disease
Bronchitis
Pneumonia
Pleurisy
Other Diseases of Respiratory Organs
Alcoholism, Cirrhosis of Liver
Venereal Diseases
Premature Birth
Diseases and Accidents of Parturition
Heart Diseases
Accidents
Suicides
Old Age
All other causes
All causes

TABLE V.

INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1908. Deaths from stated Causes in Weeks and Months under One Year of Age in the Haverhill Urban District.

CAUSE OF DEATH.		Under 1 Week.	1-2 Weeks.	2-3 Weeks.	3-4 Weeks.	Total under 1 Month.	1-2 Months.	2-3 Months.	3-4 Months.	4-5 Months.	5-6 Months.	6-7 Months.	7-8 Months.	8-9 Months.	9-10 Months.	10-11 Months.	11-12 Months.	Total Deaths under One Year.
Measles ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Whooping Cough ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Premature Birth ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Congenital Defects ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Marasmus ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Other Tuberculous Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Convulsions ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Bronchitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Pneumonia ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Other Causes...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
ALL CAUSES	Certified... Uncertified	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13

Estimated Population to middle of 1908—5,054.

Births in the year:—

Legitimate, 105
Illegitimate, 2

Deaths in the year of:—

Legitimate Infants, 13
Illegitimate Infants, none

Deaths in the year from all causes at all Ages, 57

Faverhill Urban District

IN THE

Administrative County of West Suffolk.

—:0:—

THIRTY-FIRST ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,

FOR

1908,

BY

William Armistead, M.D., F.R.S.
